

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-D081
Title: Diversity in the Episcopate and Diocesan Staff Leadership
Proposer: Mr. Jon Rania
Topic: Diversity

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A138 Transmit and Analyze Demographic Data from Episcopal Elections
2018-A143 Study the Career Development of Female and Minority Clergy
2018-A145 Urge Adoption of Policies on Diversity Before Election of a Bishop
2018-A147 Appoint a Task Force to Assist the Office of Pastoral Development in Episcopal Transitions
2018-D005 Collect Racial and Ethnic Data on Episcopal Elections and Clergy
2009-A145 Request Study of Diocesan Processes to Recruit Persons of Color
2003-A063 Encourage Diversity in Diocesan Leadership

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

1988-A074 Request a Balance of Women and Men on Appointed Church Bodies

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.

D081 - Diversity in the Episcopate and Diocesan Staff Leadership

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Mr. Jon Rania

Endorsed by: The Rev. RJ Powell, Ms. Sinead Doherty

Requests New Interim Body: Yes

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HD

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 13 - Committees & Commissions

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: Yes

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention reaffirm that God calls a great diversity of people to the episcopate and to the ministries of diocesan staff leadership, across lines of ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation; and be it further

Resolved, that this convention create a task force on diversification of the episcopate and diocesan staff leadership; and be it further

Resolved, that the President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop appoint 15 persons to include 4 bishops, 4 priests or deacons, and 7 laypersons, with members to include a geographically and ethnically diverse representation from the Church mindful to include younger generations and LGBTQ people; and be it further;

Resolved, that the Task Force report to the 81st General Convention with recommendations to the Episcopal Church for increasing diversity, particularly among women, People of Color, and LGBTQ people within the episcopate and in positions of leadership on diocesan staff in the dioceses of this Church.

Explanation

Resolution 2018-D005 called upon the office of Pastoral Development to “maintain statistics of the Racial and Ethnic makeup of men and women in elections to the episcopate” and

upon the Recorder of Ordinations to “gather data about clergy by race and ethnicity in order to show trends in ordination, deployment, and compensation by race and ethnicity”. The reports of these respective offices show that women, People of Color, and LGBTQ persons are underrepresented both in the episcopate and in diocesan staff leadership. This resolution seeks to develop recommendations for the Episcopal Church and for creating greater opportunity in all dioceses for the breadth of diversity to be represented in positions of authority at the diocesan level.

The attached report from the Office of Pastoral Development includes all consecrations 2017-present plus current bishops-elect (as of May 9, 2022). The office does not track sexual orientation or gender identity.